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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of

Roland Reinhard Rick et al.

Application No. 10/789,535 :

Filed: February 26, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 000259D1

DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed August 19, 2008, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action mailed, May 22, 2007, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the application became abandoned on August 23, 2007.

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of an amendment, (2) the petition fee of \$1540, and (3) a proper statement of unintentional delay.

It is not apparent whether the statement of unintentional delay was signed by a person who would have been in a position of knowing that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. Nevertheless, in accordance with 37 CFR 10.18, the statement is accepted as constituting a certification of unintentional delay. However, in the event that petitioner has no knowledge that the delay was unintentional, petitioner must make such an inquiry to ascertain that, in fact, the delay was unintentional. If petitioner discovers that the delay was intentional, petitioner must so notify the Office.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. See In re Application of S., 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988). Since the \$1050 extension of time fee submitted with the petition on August 19, 2008, was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply. Also the terminal disclaimer filed with this petition is not required since the application is a utility application filed after June 8, 1995. Therefore these fees are unnecessary and will be credited to petitioner's deposit account.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to JoAnne Burke at (571) 272-4584.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 2611 for appropriate action by the Examiner in the normal course of business on the reply received.

Ramesh Krishnamurthy

Petitions Examiner

Office of Petitions